

**University of Toronto, Scarborough**  
**PSYB01, Lecture 30**  
**Fall, 2012**

**Instructor:** Connie Boudens, PhD.  
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 Office Hours: Thursday 17:00 – 18:00  
 Monday 13:30 – 14:30

**Teaching Assistants:** Shaaista Bhasin shaaista.bhasin@utoronto.ca  
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**Class time:** Thursdays 19:00 – 22:00 in AA112

**Course description:** This course surveys the basic research techniques and designs used in the diverse field of psychological research, both in experimental and non-experimental areas. The topics range from the general principles of scientific research to concrete design issues, from sampling techniques to the typical problems faced when interpreting data.

**Prerequisites:** PSYA01H & PSYA02H

**Textbook:** Cozby, P. C., Bates, S. C. (2012) *Methods in behavioral science* (11<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: McGraw Hill.

**Recommended:** American Psychological Association (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

**Grading Summary:**

**Midterm exam 45%** The midterm will be consist of a mixture of short answer and multiple choice questions and will be based on the readings and lecture material up to and including the work of October 18

**Final exam: 55% (during the exam period)**

Similar to the midterm, the final will be a mixture of multiple choice, short-answer questions, and some slightly longer questions, and will be more comprehensive. Material related to experiments will be included on BOTH exams.

**Tentative Schedule and Readings**

Date	Topic	Readings
Sept 13	Introduction / review of syllabus	Chapter 1
Sept 20	1. Getting started: sources of research ideas 2. Academic journals: their nature and purpose 3. Library / literature searches 4. Ethics in research	Chapters 2
Sept 27	Essential concepts in behavioural research	Chapters 4, 5 <i>excluding</i> Nonexperimental vs experimental methods (pp. 77-83) and Choosing a method (pp. 86 – 90)
Oct 4	Observational research	Chapter 6
Oct 11	Survey research	Chapter 7
Oct 18	Experimental design	Chapter 8, 10, Nonexperimental vs experimental methods (pp. 77-83)
Oct 25	<b>Midterm exam</b>	
Nov 1	Conducting experiments	Chapter 9
Nov 8	Additional research designs	Chapter 11, lecture notes, Choosing

		a method (pp. 86 – 90)
<b>Nov 15</b>	Data analysis: description and correlation	Chapter 12
<b>Nov 22</b>	Data analysis: inferential statistics	Chapter 13, Appendix B
<b>Nov 29</b>	Generalizing and presenting results, Ethics	Chapter 14, Chapter 3, Appendix A

### Rules and Policies Pertinent to This Class:

1. Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office as soon as possible. I will work with you and AccessAbility Services to ensure you can achieve your learning goals in this course. Enquiries are confidential. The UTSC AccessAbility Services staff (located in S302) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (416) 287-7560 or [ability@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:ability@utsc.utoronto.ca).
2. In accordance with the Provost's guidelines on appropriate use of information and communicative technology, and for reasons of privacy and copyright protection, you may not record class session in either audio or video format without the explicit consent of the instructor.
3. Laptops should only be used in class if you are using it to take notes.
4. Email policy: Whenever possible, please talk to me in person if you have a question or problem. Typing an email requires a great deal more time than a verbal response, and talking in person makes it easier for me to understand what you are asking and give an appropriate response. If you must send email, please put the class you are in, and the topic of your email in the subject line.
5. Respect for all class participants is essential, and it is something that I insist on as an instructor. When another member of the class is speaking, everyone else is expected to give that person their full attention.
6. Distracting behaviour will not be tolerated. This includes talking to fellow classmates, playing video games, texting (unless there is an emergency), and attempting to redirect the discussion to a topic that is not relevant to the class.
7. Extensions on graded assignments *may* be granted depending on the circumstances, but you must speak to me in advance of the due date. Each case will be considered individually, so please be prepared to tell the reason you need the extension, and how much more time you think you will need to complete the work. Work that is handed in late and has not been approved for an extension will be penalized 5% for each working day that it is late.
8. Academic integrity is one of the cornerstones of the University of Toronto. It is critically important both to maintain our community which honours the values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness and responsibility and to protect you, the students within this community, and the value of the degree towards which you are all working so diligently. Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:
  - IN PAPERS AND ASSIGNMENTS: Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement. Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor. Making up sources or facts. Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.
  - ON TESTS AND EXAMS: Using or possessing unauthorized aids. Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test. Misrepresenting your identity.
  - IN ACADEMIC WORK: Falsifying institutional documents or grades. Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources (see <http://www.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity/resourcesforstudents.html>).

